

data; and

the status information acquisition function warning a user on the host computer if the printer can perform no printing.

6. The medium according to any of Claims 1 - 5, characterized by the status information acquisition function acquiring the communication mode as the status information data when two-way communication is held with the printer.

7. The medium according to any of Claims 1 - 6, characterized by the printing data generation function generating from a default file the form of the printing images to be printed by the printer, then generating the character string image corresponding to the status based on the status information data, and generating the printing image by superposing them together.

8. A printer for holding two-way communication with a host computer and printing status information about the printer, the printer being characterized by comprising:

an output initiation instruction unit for instructing the output initiation of the status information;

a status information acquisition unit on the printer's side for acquiring status information data on the printer;

a status information output unit for outputting through

the two-way communication the status information data acquired by the status information acquisition unit on the printer's side, and causing the host computer to generate printing data for the printer to print the status information; and

a printing unit for receiving the printing data from the host computer through the two-way communication and performing predetermined printing based on the received data.

9. The printer according to Claim 8, characterized in that the printing data received by the printing unit is dot image data.

10. The printer according to Claims 8 or 9, characterized by: the status information acquisition unit including a status information data storage part for storing status information data, and writing the output initiation instruction as part of the status information data in accordance with the output initiation instruction of the output initiation instruction unit; and

the status information output unit outputting through the two-way communication the status information data stored in the status information data storage part.

11. The printer according to Claims 8 or 9, characterized by: the output initiation instruction unit outputting a

trigger as the output initiation instruction through the two-way communication; and

the status information output unit outputting the status information data acquired by the status information acquisition unit after the trigger is outputted.

12. The printer according to any of Claims 8 - 11, characterized by the output initiation instruction unit including a predetermined instruction button, multiple operation of which gives the output initiation instruction.

13. The printer according to any of Claims 8 - 12, characterized by:

the status information acquisition unit acquiring fixed status information only when the printer is booted; and

the status information acquisition unit acquiring sequentially updated status information when the status is updated.

14. A printing controller for causing a printer connected for two-way communication to print status information on the printer, the printing controller being characterized by comprising:

an output initiation instruction monitor unit for monitoring the output initiation instruction for the status